

REMARKS

The present filing is responsive to the Examiner's concerns noted in the Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner indication of allowable subject matter in claims 9, 13 and 17.

Prior Prosecution

Applicant notes that in the first Preliminary Amendment filed at the time of the present application, Applicant's former representative submitted a claim listing containing claim amendments that do not appear to conform to the original claims as filed in the priority PCT application. Applicant submits that such was the result of inadvertent error without deceptive intent. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to accept the first Preliminary Amendment as a claim listing of a replacement claim set, and/or indicate whether Applicant should undertake steps including additional filings to correct the prior error.

Summary of the Response

The specification has been amended. Claims 1-5 and 8-17 have been amended. Claims 6, 7, 18 and 19 have been canceled. Claims 1-5 and 8-17 remain pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application as amended are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

The claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 112

Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language. Claims 18 and 19 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-12 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takehashi et al. (PCT Publication No. WO00/54339). (The English equivalent, Takehashi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,624,473 B1), is used hereinafter.) This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the claims as amended.

Claim 8 has been amended into independent form, incorporating the limitations of claims 7 and 9, which therefore conforms to claim 9 that has been indicated as containing patentable subject matter by the Examiner.

Claim 13 has been amended into independent form, incorporating the limitations of claims 7 and 8, which has been indicated as containing patentable subject matter by the Examiner.

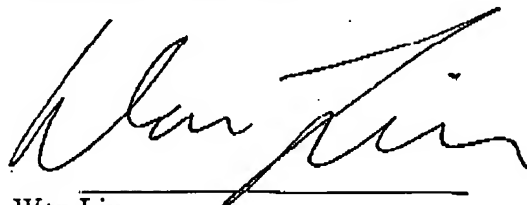
Claim 1 has been amended to require a fillet on the conductive region at the corner between the LDD region and the upstanding gate region. This structure is not disclosed by Takehashi.

Accordingly, all the claims dependent from claims 1, 8 and 13 are likewise patentable, including claim 5 that has been rejected as being obvious over Takehashi.

CONCLUSION

In view of all the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims pending in this application are patentable over the references of record and are in condition for allowance. Such action at an early date is earnestly solicited. **The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative to discuss any outstanding issues that may not have been adequately addressed in this response.**

Respectfully submitted,



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